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* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, from what my hon. Friend, the Member from South Kanara, said, I take it that this resolution applies really to secondary schools and colleges and not to elementary schools. In the matter of secondary schools, the majority of the institutions are under private management or under the control of the local bodies. The question is whether it is possible to have a medical practitioner attached to each institution. As I said in reply to the resolution moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. A. B. Shetty, on the question of physical education and as has also been done in reply to a question put by him the other day, Government are quite willing that medical practitioners should be appointed if they are qualified as physical instructors and the Government will take into consideration for purposes of grant the employment of these medical practitioners. Then the question of teaching physiology and hygiene is a matter really for the high schools concerned and, as I have explained to my Friend, it is not all classes that can be taught physiology and hygiene, because it would be impossible to teach these two subjects unless the students are advanced enough to understand the intricacies of the subjects concerned. As a matter of fact, in the old days, under the old First in Arts Examination, physiology was one of the compulsory subjects, but, under the new system that is followed by the University, in which there has been specialization from the Intermediate Standard itself, it has not been possible to include physiology as a compulsory subject and this is a matter again for the University and not for the Government.

" As I have said before, I am quite willing that physical instructors should be recruited from medical practitioners, if such are available, and, as I have also already said, Government will be quite willing to consider for purposes of grant the employment of these physical instructors from among the medical practitioners. But the question of making appointments of these people compulsory will not be one which will be easy to accomplish. But, as I have said to my hon. Friend, I will have this matter investigated by the Director of Public Instruction and see how far it would be possible to have these Licentiate Medical Practitioners employed as physical instructors in schools."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, in view of the statement made by the hon. the Minister for Education, I beg to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

INVESTIGATION OF A SUPPLY CHANNEL TO DHONDAPADU TANK.

* Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move my resolution that— 3-45 p.m.

' *This Council recommends to the Government that the investigation of a supply channel to Dhondapadu tank in Vinukonda taluk of Guntur district from Kondaleru scheme be taken up immediately and necessary expenditure for taking levels, etc., be sanctioned.*'

" Sir, in my district, in the Vinukonda taluk, there are five or six large tanks within six miles from the town, to the west of it, by name Dhondapadu, Koppukonda, Kanamalacheruvu, Nadigudda, Bhartipuram and Singeri tanks. Of these, Dhondapadu and Koppukonda are more or less equal in size, extent

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and importance. The Dhondapadu tank which is six miles west of Vinukonda was built by that most sympathetic officer, Sir, Tag Arundal about 25 years ago in order to divert the water that was running to waste from jungle streams by the side of this tank. Two streams called the big Kondaleru and small Kondaleru join at Palukur and after running for about five miles west of these tanks, fall into the river Gundlakama. My suggestion is to put a dam across the river Kondaleru below Gutlapalli wherefrom you can take the water into the Dhondapadu tank and thence to Koppukonda and other tanks by force of gravitation. By so doing, you will be bringing into cultivation a very large extent of land, about 4 or 5 thousand acres. I am sure the hon. the Revenue Member knows that portion of the taluk very well. That was his resort, once in a way in summer whenever he could find time to spare, while he was the Collector of the district. I am sure he knows that portion of the district much more than I can explain. If the investigation of this scheme is taken up immediately, Sir, I am sure the people of those parts will feel grateful to him. I hear, Sir, that recently the Collector has also sent a favourable report about this scheme, and I trust that the hon. the Revenue Member would find sufficient money to take up this investigation, consider whether the scheme will pay, and if so, to bring before the Council the estimate for sanction. With these few words, Sir, I commend the resolution to the acceptance of this House."

* Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" Sir, I second the resolution, and in doing so, I do not propose to give more facts than my hon. Friend from Guntur has been able to give now. All that I would say is that the question of minor irrigation tanks improvement has not been finally solved; for, not very much progress has been made so far with regard to these minor irrigation tanks improvement. This is one instance which has been brought before this House for the consideration of the hon. Member for Irrigation. Out of the several schemes that are pending consideration in the whole Presidency, this is one which, as has been pointed by my hon. Friend from Guntur, seems to be a very remunerative enterprise. He does not claim to work it out only on a protective basis, but he has given facts to show that it will be a remunerative and productive one. With these few words, Sir, I second the resolution."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is 'that this Council recommends to the Government that the investigation of a supply channel to Dhondapadu tank in Vinukonda taluk of Guntur district from Kondaleru scheme be taken up immediately and necessary expenditure for taking levels, etc., be sanctioned'."

* The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Mr. President, Sir, this Dhondapadu tank together with another tank which the hon. Member referred to called the Nadigudda tank were put in order at a cost of Rs 1,30,000. They were expected to irrigate an area of 2,550 acres. After this was made, the water never rose to the level of the tank sluices there was never enough water to flow out of the sluices. So means were then investigated, to find if the supply could not in some way or other be improved. Not less than seven sites on the Kondaleru river were examined, and it was found in those sites which were nearest to the tank that there was a ridge of at least 100 feet between the site and the tanks which had to be tunnelled or crossed in some

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way; higher up where the levels were more favourable, sufficient catchment area was not commanded. So, the remedy was adopted of fitting the tank with a low level sluice, and at present, from that low level sluice, the ayacut is supplied, such ayacut as there is. It has never exceeded 500 acres at any time, and in some years it has been at low as 90 acres. The experience of this tank is not, I am sorry to say, singular; I can give the hon. Member the names of at least half a dozen tanks in this part of the country which have much the same history. A very large sum of money was spent in repairing them and in equipping them with sluices, and then it was found that the catchment area did not supply enough water. The truth of the matter seems to be that the rainfall in those parts is so precarious that it does not pay anybody to make dry land into wet land on the off-chance of getting water for growing wet crops once in five years or so. In the other years, they get enough rain for dry crops, and in such years the tank is of no use at all. It is for that reason that the Government are so chary in entering upon big tank projects in that part of the country. Satisfactory irrigation arrangements for that part of the Guntur district can only be made by some storage scheme on one of the big rivers, or by constructing an anicut thereon. In the case of this particular tank, it seems to be impracticable to find any source through which we can increase the supply except at enormous cost in the way of tunnelling, etc., a cost which will be prohibitive and, even then, may or may not yield a sufficient supply. I can assure the hon. Member that this is not a matter that has not been investigated. It has been investigated over and over again, but always with the same unfavourable result."

* Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu:—"Sir, the hon. Mr. Marjoribanks has pointed out that this question has been considered over and over again. Quite recently too this question was gone into by the Collector of the district and when I met him last, he told me that he had sent up his recommendation for diverting a channel from about Gutlapalli and that there was a possibility of sufficient water being stored, thus bringing about more or less 5,000 acres under cultivation. The hon. the Revenue Member has told us that it would cost a good deal to divert water into these tanks in the way of tunnelling, etc. But there is no necessity for tunnelling if water is to be diverted from Gutlapalli. It is for the purpose of investigation into this question, Sir, that this resolution was brought before the Council and the hon. the Revenue Member was requested to find money for this purpose. It is certainly true, Sir, that this investigation was taken up more than once. But in all such matters, different investigating officers have different ways of bringing about a successful result. One particular officer may investigate in one way and another man in another way, and all may come to the same conclusion through by different sources. The particular plan suggested by the Collector, I understand, Sir, is a more feasible one, and in view of this I request the hon. Member to see his way to find some funds for investigating this scheme so that the long expected happy result may be brought about."

* The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"Sir, I could not quite catch what the hon. Member said last, but if that is a new method which has been discovered, we have not yet heard of it, and as soon as we hear of it, we shall be very glad to consider it, Sir."

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Diwan Bahadur P. O. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—"It is that that I wanted. Sir, and in view of the hon. Member's assurances that he would consider it, I am prepared to withdraw my resolution."

The resolution was by leave withdrawn.

The House then adjourned, to re-assemble at 11 o'clock the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX

[Vide item IV on page 16 supra.]

BILL No. 29 OF 1927.

A Bill to amend the Malabar Wills Act, 1898.

Report of the Select Committee.

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

We, the undersigned members of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Bill to amend the Malabar Wills Act, 1898 (Bill No. 29 of 1927), have the honour to submit the following report.

2. The Bill was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* in English on the 8th November 1927 and in Malayalam and Kanarese on the 6th December 1927.

3. The Committee met on the 26th January 1928 for the consideration of the Bill.

4. The Bill is intended to apply the principles of the Muhammadan Law of Wills, to wills executed by Mappillas governed by the Marumakattayam and Aliyasantana Laws of Inheritance in respect of property which they are competent to dispose of by will. The Committee understand that this is in accordance with the sentiments of the generality of Mappillas governed by the Marumakattayam and Aliyasantana Laws and are of opinion that this consideration is decisive of the necessity for passing the Bill into law. They therefore accept the Bill. They, however, think that the Bill should take the form of an independent measure dealing with the wills of Mappillas and not the form of a Bill to amend the Malabar Wills Act. The Select Committee have accordingly made the necessary changes in drafting.

5. We recommend that the Bill be brought into effect from the 1st January 1929.

6. A copy of the Bill as amended by the Committee is appended. The Committee consider it unnecessary to republish the Bill.

MAHMUD SCHAMNAD.
J. A. SALDANHA.
M. KRISHNAN NAYAR.
T. M. MOIDOO.